

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 VIENTI 01010 121110Z

12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01

AGR-05 /074 W

----- 122655

P 121038Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2494

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 1010

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, LA

SUBJECT: WEEKLY ECONOMIC SITUATION REPORT (FEB 5-11)

1. TOTAL FOREIGN EXCHANGE SOLD THROUGH BANKS DURING WEEK
ENDING FEB 7 WAS \$556,000, COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS WEEKLY
AVERAGE FOR CY 1975 OF \$468,000. (DUE TO FEB 11-13
CLOSURE OF FEOF FOR LAO HOLIDAYS, DETAIL ON BREAKDOWN
OF FX SALES NOT YET AVAILABLE.)

2. THE FREE MARKET RATE FOR DOLLARS DECLINED marginally
DURING PAST WEEK. ON FEB 12 MERCHANTS AND OTHER FX
DEALERS WERE BUYING DOLLARS FOR APPROXIMATELY 1,350 KIP
PER DOLLAR AND SELLING FOR 1,370 KIP, DOWN FROM 1,380
BUYING AND 1,390 SELLING ON FEB 4.

3. USAID COST-OF-LIVING INDEX FOR VIENTIANE ROSE
MODERATELY DURING LAST WEEK, REFLECTING PRIMARILY PRICE
INCREASES FOR RICE, FISH, AND CERTAIN VEGETABLES.
USAID INDEX ON FEB 10 SHOWED FOLLOWING CHANGES:

PERCENTAGE CHANGE SINCE

FEB 3 END CY 74

GENERAL INDEX 1.4 4.5

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 VIENTI 01010 121110Z

RICE INDEX 0.3 7.8

NON-RICE INDEX 1.6 3.8

INCREASE OF 7.8 PERCENT IN RICE INDEX SINCE END 1974

APPEARS TO BE DUE TO SEVERAL FACTORS, INCLUDING: (1)

CONTINUED DECLINE IN VALUE OF KIP VIS-A-VIS THE BAHT AND

DOLLAR (VALUE OF KIP DOWN APPROX. 7 PERCENT SINCE END-

YEAR), THUS RESULTING IN HIGHER KIP COST FOR IMPORTS OF

THAI RICE, AND (2) INCREASED BAHT COSTS OF EXPORTS OF THAI

RICE.

4. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN LAO EFFORTS TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL
FOREIGN ASSISTANCE INCLUDE:

A. COMMODITY AID FROM NORTH VIETNAM CONTINUES TO

ARRIVE IN PAKSANE (SEE VTE 0964, VTE 0837), WITH 91 TRUCKS

ARRIVING ON FEB 9 CARRYING 84 TONS RICE AND 300 TONS CEMENT.

B. GOVT SPOKESMAN OUDAY SOUVANNAVONG ANNOUNCED THAT

USSR WILL PROVIDE LAOS COMMODITY ASSISTANCE INCLUDING

NEWSPRINT, TEXTILES, POL, FLOUR, CANNED MILK, POWDERED

MILK, POWDERED EGGS, CANNED MEAT, CANNED FISH AND

MEDICINE (VTE 0978, VTE 0881). THIS ASSISTANCE

ADDITIONAL TO PROVISION OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED (VTE 0301).

5. DECONTROL FOLLOWING 2/12/76.

WHITEHOUSE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC REPORTS, FOREIGN EXCHANGE, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975VIENTI01010
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750050-0900
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750248/aaaabrcw.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <22 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEEKLY ECONOMIC SITUATION REPORT (FEB 5-11)
TAGS: ECON, LA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006